

In The Claims:

A marked-up version of the claims showing the amendments is attached hereto as Exhibit A. Matter that has been deleted from the claims is indicated by brackets and matter that has been added is indicated by underlining.

Please enter the following amended claims:

C1 1. (Twice Amended) A composition comprising isolated bipotent hepatic progenitors which express at least one intercellular adhesion molecule (ICAM) antigen and do not express major histocompatibility complex (MHC) class Ia antigen, in which the bipotent hepatic progenitors have a capacity to differentiate.

C2 3. (Twice Amended) The composition of Claim 2 in which the MHC class Ib antigen is weakly expressed in comparison to expression of ICAM as indicated by a dull positive response to immunostaining with fluorescent anti-MHC class 1b antibody in comparison to a positive response to immunostaining with anti-ICAM antibody.

5. (Twice Amended) The composition of Claim 1 in which the hepatic progenitors have a sidescatter value determined by flow cytometry which is numerically less than the sidescatter value of mature parenchymal cells of the same species.

C3 6. (Once Amended) The composition of Claim 1 in which the hepatic progenitors have a sidescatter in flow cytometry which is between the sidescatter of

C3
cond nonparenchymal cells of the same species and the sidescatter of mature parenchymal cells of the same species.

14. (Twice Amended) A composition comprising isolated hepatic progenitors, their progeny, or a combination thereof in which the hepatic progenitors and their progeny:

- C4*
- (a) express at least one MHC class Ib antigen;
 - (b) exhibit a numerically higher sidescatter value determined by flow cytometry than the sidescatter value of nonparenchymal cells of the same species;
 - (c) express alpha-fetoprotein, albumin, CK 19, or combinations thereof; and
 - (d) wherein the hepatic progenitors are capable of differentiating.

C5

20. (Once Amended) The composition of Claim 15 in which the progenitors weakly express at least one MHC class Ib antigen in comparison to expression of ICAM as indicated by a dull positive response to immunostaining with fluorescent anti-MHC class 1b antibody in comparison to a positive response to immunostaining with anti-ICAM antibody.

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 were pending in the application. Claims 3, 5, 6, 14, and 20 have been amended. Upon entry of these amendments, Claims 1-20 will be pending and under active consideration. Claims 1 and 14 are independent. A marked-up version of the claims indicating the changes to the claims is attached hereto as Exhibit A. A copy of all pending claims, as amended, is attached hereto as Exhibit B. The amendments are supported fully by the claims and/or specification as originally filed and, thus, do not represent new subject matter.